REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 12-20 are cancelled. Claims 10-11 and 21-22 remain in the application. Thus, claims 10-11 and 21-22 are active in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In the Advisory Action dated March 29, 2004, the Examiner maintained the rejection of claims 12-20. In order to place the application in condition for allowance, and without intending to acquiesce to the rejection of claims 12-20, claims 12-20 have been cancelled without prejudice to the subject matter therein.

The Applicants thank the Examiner for kindly indicating, on page 6 of the Office Action, that claims 10-11 and 21-22 are allowed. Accordingly, since only claims 10-11 and 21-22 remain in the application, the Applicants respectfully submit that the application is clearly in condition for allowance. An early notice thereof is respectfully solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels there are any issues which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

A fee and a Petition for a one-month Extension of Time are filed herewith pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.136(a).

Respectfully submitted,

Toshiharu HAYASHI et al.

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